steps taken by the Central Government to overcome backwardness of Muslims in these districts; and

(c) the names of schemes executed by Government for welfare of Muslims?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) and (b) The Annual Plan 2007-2008 have a provision for a multi sectoral development plan for minority concentration districts . The provision is for backward districts with a substantial minority population, including that of Muslims.

(c) Details of schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs and its organizations for the welfare of minorities, including Muslims, are available on the website of the Ministry at www.minorityaffairs.gov.in. In addition, the Ministry of Minority Affairs is also implementing a Coaching and Allied Scheme for minorities.

Grants for the development of wakf properties

2967. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Wakf Council is facing financial problems in development of wakf properties in the country;

(b) if so, the total grants given to Central Wakf Council for development of wakf properties in the country during last two years; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to provide sufficient funds to Central Wakf Council?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) to (c) Grants-in-aid released by the Government of India of Central Wakf Council during last two years are as under:—

2005-2006 Rs. 143.25 lakhs

2006-2007 Rs. 206.00 lakhs

Enhanced provisions for grants-in-aid to the tune of Rs. 290 lakhs has been provided for the year 2007-2008.